

Excerpt from the minutes of the January 2014 meeting of the State Board

Report from the College and Career Readiness Task Force, first established by Superintendent Keith Rheault, and discussion regarding how the report's recommendations fit with the Department's overall college and career readiness goals.

Superintendent Erquiaga discussed the College and Career Readiness for Nevada Students Task Force Report

[http://www.doe.nv.gov/Boards_Commissions_Councils/State_Board_of_Education/2014/Meetings/January/Item - 12 - College and Career Readiness for Nevada Students/](http://www.doe.nv.gov/Boards_Commissions_Councils/State_Board_of_Education/2014/Meetings/January/Item_-_12_-_College_and_Career_Readiness_for_Nevada_Students/)

The question of what college and career ready means was conceived by former Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Keith Rheault, and the task force. The testing consortia are also addressing what it means when it is stated that these standards lead to college and career readiness. These are not standards on which curriculum will be based or an assessment will be built. There are elective supplemental or enrichment standards in everything from PE to health to computer literacy. There are Career & Technical Education standards and Pre-K standards.

The language defining the vision is important. Superintendent Erquiaga said the Board could add to the definition to include College, Career and *Community* Readiness and asked for direction to move forward with framing the definition.

Member Cook clarified that the Board is being asked to accept the definition and endorse the following six standards:

1. Students demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, mathematics, and science.
2. Students demonstrate proficiency in digital literacy.
3. Students know and understand the specific content knowledge applicable to one or more career pathways.
4. Students demonstrate cultural competency.
5. Students demonstrate critical thinking, teamwork, problem solving, communication, and technical skills.
6. Students exhibit the characteristics of a lifelong learner by demonstrating qualities including but not limited to:
 - a. Adaptability and flexibility,
 - b. Independence and personal responsibility,
 - c. Intellectual curiosity and perseverance,
 - d. Acknowledging diverse perspectives, and
 - e. A strong work ethic.

Input must be provided regarding the selection of indicators that can be added or changed as recommendations are made. Then move forward to create the actual readiness framework, and disseminate the information.

Member Cook moved to accept the definition of college and career readiness: *College and Career Readiness means the pupil who graduates from high school demonstrates the foundational knowledge, skills, and qualities to succeed, without remediation, in workforce training, certification, and degree programs.* And to accept the six college, career and readiness standards that Nevada students should strive to develop and demonstrate by the time that they graduate from high school. And direct staff to provide input on the selection of indicators. Member Gonzales-Black seconded the motion.

Member Newburn pointed out that college and career is a term used by the federal government as a definition and asked if there could be confusion by adding community. Superintendent Erquiaga said other states use the term college, career and citizen ready. Other districts and some states have begun to add the same nomenclature. Under the waiver, Nevada is still required to demonstrate college and career readiness rigor of standards in specific tested federal subjects; that would not change.

Member Jamin said adding community readiness is important because students need to know they have a responsibility to their communities and that they can make a difference as an individual. She said she appreciates Member Cook's clarification regarding the indicators because some are more subjective than others, particularly the last three.

Member Melcher suggested using the word society or societal in place of community and give additional thought to the correct phrase.

The motion carried.